

NAVAJO COUNTY CITIZENS' PANEL MINUTES
THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2008

The Citizens' Panel as appointed by the Navajo County Board of Supervisors came to order at 9:00 a.m. on June 12, 2008 at the Taylor Town Hall, 425 W. Paper Mill Road, Taylor, Arizona. Panel members present: Robin Boyd, Jeff Hill, Kelly Willis, Alice Franco-Anderson, Brad Click, Jack Latham, Carla Bowen, Greg Schalow and Larry Vicario.

County Attorney Mel Bowers outlined the statutory authority for this panel stating their charge is as outlined on the agenda: Discussion and development of a list of three registered Republicans who reside in the Navajo County portion of District 5 to fill the vacant Senate Seat in District 5 to propose to the Navajo County Board of Supervisors for their action. He advised this meeting is subject to the open meeting law, provided a brief overview of that law and advised the panel could choose someone to chair the meeting. In response to a question from Carla Bowen, Mr. Bowers stated that this panel is not subject to Roberts Rules of Order.

Panel members introduced themselves, giving their place of residence, political background and business responsibilities. Panel members expressed sorrow at the loss of Jake Flake.

Jack Latham made a motion to nominate Larry Vicario as Chairman of this panel; motion seconded by Jeff Hill; vote unanimous approving the motion.

Discussion followed on:

- The process that will be followed by Republican Precinct Committeemen on Saturday to name the Republican candidate to be included on the ballot for the vacant seat.
- The need for the person selected by Navajo County to be a strong candidate for consideration for the ballot.
- Only precinct committeemen who were elected or appointed prior to Senator Flake's death will be able to participate in this process.
- The best way to honor the name of Jake Flake is to appoint someone who could be a serious candidate, will continue his work, is knowledgeable about current issues including the budget, can function in the Senate, and understands the water situation and resources in Navajo County.

All panel members put forth names that included: Sylvia Allen, Gerry Whipple, Charlie Hendrickson and Kerry Ballard. It was noted that Pete Shumway would have been considered but he has suffered severe health issues recently. Following considerable discussion, **Jack Latham made a motion** to recommend Sylvia Allen's appointment to the Navajo County Board of Supervisors; motion seconded by Brad Click. During discussion it was suggested that this panel should recommend three Republicans ranked in order of priority of recommendation. Jack Latham withdrew his motion and after further discussion Brad Click withdrew his second.

In response to Brad Click's inquiry, Mr. Bowers stated that Friday's Board of Supervisors' meeting is an open meeting and if members of the panel would like to speak at that meeting, the board normally takes input from the public. He stated the board is hopeful that the candidates whose names are submitted would be present tomorrow to address the board before the board makes its decision. In response to a question from Ms. Franco-Anderson, Mr. Bowers stated that for this committee to develop a recommendation to the Republican Precinct Committeemen is outside the scope of this agenda.

Jack Latham made a motion to recommend the following names to the Board of Supervisors to complete the term of Senator Jake Flake with names listed in order of priority: Sylvia Allen, Gerry Whipple and Charlie Hendrickson. Robin Boyd seconded the motion. The strengths of these three candidates were discussed with a

majority indicating that Ms. Allen is the strongest candidate. Chairman Vicario called for the question and it passed with a majority vote of 8-1, with Carla Bowen casting the dissenting vote.

Chairman Vicario adjourned the meeting at 9:47 a.m.

Submitted by Darlene Fraley, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors